

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 NEA-14 SY-04 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 051152Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6488

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1377

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14324

E.O. 11652: AGDS DECLAS 10/30/74

TAGS: OCON, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO: ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 19TH COUNCIL
MEETING

REF: STATE 191786

1. RE PARA 7 REFTTEL, THAI COUNCIL REP INFORMED DCM ON SEPTEMBER
4 THAT RTG DOES NOT RPT NOT DESIRE TO CHAIR SUBJECT MEETING.
RATIONALE GIVEN WAS THAT NO AGREEMENT EXISTS TO HOLD ANNUAL
COUNCIL MEETING EVERY YEAR IN US AND, THEREFORE, MATTER OF
ESTABLISHING A ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP IS NOT GERMANE AT THIS TIME.

2. THAIS HAVE A TECHNICAL POINT. RATHER THAN APPROACH OTHER
MEMBERS RE CHAIRMANSHIP (THE PHILIPPINES WOULD BE NEXT IN LINE),
EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE US CHAIR MEETING
THIS YEAR AGAIN. IN ORDER TO INITIATE ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP
NEXT YEAR, HOWEVER, EMBASSY HAS PROPOSED TO SEATO THAT BOTH
VENUE AND CHAIRMANSHIP RE 1975 MEETING BE ADDRESSED BY THE COUNCIL
MEMBERS UNDER OTHER BUSINESS.

3. IN REPLY TO QUERY BY THAI COUNCIL REP AS TO LEADER OF US
DELEGATION TO 19TH COUNCIL MEETING, DCM STATED THAT DEPUTY
SECRETARY INGERSOLL WOULD LEAD DELEGATION BUT THAT SECRETARY
WOULD HOST DINNER EVENING OF OCTOBER 3. THAI COUNCIL REP COMMENTED
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THAT LAST YEAR DISAPPOINTMENT WAS REGISTERED OVER FACT THAT

WHILE MINISTERS CAME FROM HALF WAY AROUND THE WORLD TO ATTEND MEETING, SECRETARY, WHO WAS IN NEW YORK SAME DAY, DID NOT APPEAR. IN VIEW THIS REACTION, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE MOST ADVISABLE HAVE SECRETARY HEAD US DELEGATION, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF FACT THAT RTG FONMIN CHARUNPHAN WILL LEAD THAI DELEGATION. IF OTHER DEMANDS ON SECRETARY'S TIME OCTOBER 3 PRECLUDE HIS ATTENDING ENTIRE MEETING, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIROUS EVEN IF HE LIMITED HIMSELF TO DELIVERING OPENING REMARKS BEFORE TURNING OVER CHAIRMANSHIP TO DEPUTY SECRETARY.

4. OTHER MATTERS RAISED IN REFTTEL WILL BE ADDRESSED IN SEPTTEL. KINTNER

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